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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY East Germany

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SUBJECT Changes in East German Customs Procedures

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(LISTED BELOW)SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. The number of interior East German customs offices is to be reduced to 15. The duties of customs inspections of exports are to be turned over to customs offices located at border crossing points.
2. New regulations for parcel post imports are being developed. Gift parcels may not contain sealed packages such as cans and tins of food. The public, via the press, is not to be notified of this change, but all such cans and tins are to be confiscated. If amounts of tobacco, coffee, chocolate, and cocoa exceeding the legal limits for gift parcels are found in a package, the entire package is to be confiscated, not just the excess amount as heretofore.
3. All parcel post customs inspection is to be done at nine offices. Whereas formerly the recipient of a package was notified to report to a customs office for inspection of a package in his presence, the new regulations will provide that the package will be opened, inspected, resealed or confiscated at one of the central offices. If the package is released for delivery, a statement of import duty will be attached. This amount is to be paid by the recipient at time of delivery. The recipient will not have the privilege of opening the package before paying the customs duty.
4. East Berlin will have one parcel post customs office: Berlin N 3, Oranienburgerstrasse.
5. Postal customs offices are to be under the direct supervision and control of the Main Administration Customs. They will no longer be under supervision and control of the local Main Customs Offices. The latter are to be coordinated with the Office for Commodity Traffic Control (Amt fuer Kontrolle des Warenverkehrs).

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